

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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March 10, 2000 LB 953, 1257, 1310

SENATOR BEUTLER: So it's working with federal...federal money...

SENATOR HILGERT: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...in its entirety.

SENATOR HILGERT: Yeah, LB 1311 there is no stated impact. There's a short explanation that does say Nebraska could lose almost \$11 million if we don't do LB 1311. And to LB 1310, the fiscal note is no identifiable fiscal impact. So we're not...it's not so much a...there's nothing that's going to raise money in these bills, but we could stand to lose substantial amount if we don't pass the amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. And the Workforce Investment Act, I assume that's required by the federal government in order to get some federal funds. Is that basically the idea? And I guess ultimately...

SENATOR HILGERT: Well,...

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...my question is, do we have a lot of latitude on what we do here? Is the federal government has to approve it in order to approve funds, or how does that work?

SENATOR HILGERT: I believe the federal government has some guidelines and, frankly, that's why I've been working with the Department of Labor on it. I wanted to make sure that we were following the federal guidelines. It's...it's an open question of which I'm not going to give a definitive answer to, to how much we would lose or...if we do not pass LB 1257, but the Workforce Investment Act was a federal initiative. They're asking us to be more inclusive, to have the boards in place and so forth. There's a lot of work that Commissioner Lecuona and Governor Johanns have already completed on this, and they should be certainly recognized and congratulated for their efforts, but they do need to have the implementation in law. Frankly, I'm a little...Senator Beutler, frankly, I'm a little...I was kind of surprised that they waited till the year of implementation to get this through, but so be it.